

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
(X) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny  
Exemption(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
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( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to \_\_\_\_\_  
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December 29, 1977

MEMORANDUM

TO : Ms. Jeanne Nelson  
Office of Export Administration DOC

FROM : P. H. Blackburn, Office of East-West Trade

SUBJECT : ARGENTINA - Sale of Bell Helicopters  
to Argentine Military

You will recall that Bell Helicopter some time ago submitted a license application to State's Office of Munitions Control for export of military helicopters to the Argentine Air Force. The Department found it impossible to approve that application absent certain assurances from the Argentine Government (GOA) on use of these Munitions List helicopters.

At about the same time, Bell applied to Commerce for license to export three non-military helicopters to the Argentine Army. We have been unable to recommend approval of this parallel case for reasons similar to those set out above.

However, circumstances have changed slightly. The GOA now wants eight Bell non-military helicopters for the Air Force, and has given satisfactory assurances. The Deputy Secretary has authorized a recommendation of approval for this transaction.

Thus, the Department of State recommends approval of license for eight Bell non-military helicopters for export to the Argentine Air Force.

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The Department cannot recommend approval of license for export of non-military helicopters to the Argentine Army at this time. We doubt that the applicant will press for a decision on that case, but you may want to be in touch with the firm to ascertain its wishes with regard to disposition of that application.

cc: ARA/ECA - Fred Rondon  
HA/HR - Ollie Jones

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